## Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1-7. (Canceled)
- 8. (Currently Amended) A cement dispersant comprising a water-soluble amphoteric copolymer, or a partly or a fully neutralized salt thereof, the copolymer being formed by copolymerizing a monomer mixture containing as a main monomer component,

at least one compound (compound A) obtained by addition of 0 to 8 moles of an alkylene oxide having 2 to 4 carbon atoms with respect to one equivalent of amino residues of a polyamide polyamine obtained by condensation of 1.0 mole of a polyalkylene polyamine, 0.5 to 0.95 mole of a dibasic acid or an ester of the dibasic acid with a lower alcohol having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and 0.05 to 0.70 moles of acrylic acid or methacrylic acid, or an ester of acrylic acid or methacrylic acid with a lower alcohol having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; atoms, wherein when the number of molecules of the dibasic acid or the ester of dibasic acid with a lower alcohol having 1 to 4 carbon atoms is represented by x, and the number of molecules of acrylic acid or methacrylic acid, or the ester of acrylic acid or methacrylic acid with a lower alcohol having 1 to 4 carbon atoms is represented by y with respect to 1 molecule of the polyalkylene polyamine, conditions of the following equation:

 $\frac{0.6 < y/(1-x) < 1.4}{\text{are satisfied;}}$ 

at least one compound (compound B) represented by general formula (1)

$$CH_2 = C - COOM$$
 (1)

wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, and M represents a hydrogen atom,

an alkali metal, an alkali earth metal, an ammonium group, or an alkanolammonium; at least one compound (compound C) represented by general formula (2)

$$CH_2 = C - COO (R^3O) mR^4$$
 (2)  
 $R^2$ 

wherein R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, R<sup>3</sup> represents an alkylene group having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, R<sup>4</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and m represents the number of addition molecules of a polyalkylene glycol and is an integer of 1 to 35; and

at least one compound (compound D) represented by general formula (3)

$$CH_2 = C - COO (R^6O) n R^7$$
 (3)  
 $R^5$ 

wherein R<sup>5</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, R<sup>6</sup> represents an alkylene group having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, R<sup>7</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and n represents the number of addition molecules of a polyalkylene glycol and is an integer of 40 to 100,

wherein, when the total of the compounds A to D is set to be 100 percent by weight, the water-soluble amphoteric copolymer is obtained by copolymerizing 5 to 25 percent by weight of the compound A, 5 to 30 percent by weight of the compound B, 5 to 40 percent by weight of the compound C, and 20 to 80 percent by weight of the compound

## D.compound D and

the cement dispersant has high water reducing effect, is excellent in slump flow retention, has rapid strength development and decreases high concrete paste viscosity in a region having a low water/binder ratio.

- 9. (Canceled)
- 10. (Previously Presented) A concrete admixture for mortar and concrete, comprising a mixture which contains the cement dispersant according to Claim 8 and at least one additive for mortar and concrete selected from the group consisting of a cement dispersant different from said cement dispersant, a defoaming agent, and an air-entraining agent.
- 11. (Previously Presented) A concrete composition comprising the cement dispersant according to Claim 8.
- 12. (Previously Presented) A concrete composition comprising the concrete admixture for mortar and concrete according to Claim 10.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The concrete composition according to Claim 11, wherein the concrete composition is used for an ultrahigh performance concrete.
  - 14-15. (Canceled)
- 16. (Currently Amended) The concrete composition according to Claim 12, wherein the concrete composition is used for an ultrahigh performance concrete.